

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-20 EUR-25 TRSE-00 OMB-01

DRC-01 MC-02 /117 W

----- 088783

R 301648Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3538

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

CNO WASHINGTON DC

COMUSNAVSO FORT AMADOR CZ

JCS/OSD WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 3819

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: BMOP, BR

SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN NAVY AAW FRIGATE

REF: A. STATE 6640 B. BRASILIA 852 C. BRASILIA 1686

1. FOLLOWING INFORMATION PROVIDED BY USMILGP, RIO, IN
RESPONSE REF A AND UPDATE OF REFS B AND C.

2. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH RADM THOR HANSON, USN, NEW BRAZNAV
MINISTER INDICATED THAT AAW FRIGATE ACQUISITION PLANNING
BEING HELD IN ABEYANCE. NAVAL MINISTER VERY POSITIVE IN
STATING PREFERENCE FOR U.S. EQUIPMENT AND THAT NO NEW SHIP/
WEAPONS PROCUREMENTS WILL BE APPROVED UNLESS EVIDENCE AND
ASSURANCE GIVEN THAT ACQUISITIONS ARE ACCOMPANIED BY
ADEQUATE SPARE PARTS/TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION/OPERATOR AND
MAINTENANCE TRAINING SUPPORT.

3. UNOFFICIAL INFO IS THAT VOSPER THORNYCROFT WOULD
NOT CONSIDER SHIFT TO BRAZIL OF CONSTRUCTION LAST OF FOUR
MK-10 FRIGATES NOW SCHEDULED FOR BUILDING IN ENGLAND UNLESS
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BRAZNAV MADE FIRM COMMITMENT FOR AAW FRIGATE. BRAZNAV

REJECTED THIS OFFER: ALL INDICATIONS SUPPORT CONCLUSION
THAT BRAZNAV TENDING TOWARD REJECTION U.K. PROPOSAL FOR
AAW FRIGATE.

4. LAUNCH OF FIRST MK-10 FRIGATE BEING BEUILT IN BRAZIL HAS
BEEN RESCHEDULED FROM JUNE TO JULY 1974 DUE MATERIAL DELIVERY
DELAYS FROM U.K. HIGH LEVEL CONTINGENT BRAZNAV OFFICIALS
HAS JUST RETURNED FROM ENGLAND, WHERE THEY ATTEMPTED TO
RESOLVE CURRENT AND ANTICIPATED MATERIAL DELIVERY PROBLEMS.

5. DEGREE BRAZNAV INTEREST IN U.S. TODD SHIPBUILDING
FRIGATE PROPOSAL UNKNOWN. IN-COUNTRY APRIL 17/18 BRIEFINGS
ON USN PATROL FRIGATE (PF) ELICITED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST
THIS DESIGN AND PROGRAM; REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER THIS
INTEREST DEVELOPS INTO SERIOUS INTENT. THE KEY WILL BE
AVAILABILITY OF U.S. FINANCING COMPETITIVE WITH THAT
AVAILABLE IN ENGLAND AND EUROPE. PROJECTED FMS CREDIT
LEVELS COUPLED WITH MAGNITUDE OF FY74 THROUGH FY76 COMMITALS
FOR FE5E ACFT PURCHASE CONTRIBUTE TO BELIEF THAT FINANCIAL
PROSPECT DIM AT PRESENT FMS FUNDING LEVELS.

6. WILL ADVISE FURTHER.
CRIMMINS

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NNN

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